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†AM-REAGAN;500
†REAGAN AND BUSH BRIEFED ON MIDEAST
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MIDDLEBURG, VA. (AP) - CARTER ADMINISTRATION INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS GAVE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE RONALD REAGAN AND RUNNING MATE GEORGE BUSH A BRIEFING SATURDAY ON THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WAR BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ.

BUSH CALLED THE DISCUSSION ''PURE INTELLIGENCE'' AND SAID THAT NEITHER HE NOR REAGAN INTENDED TO USE THE INFORMATION ''AS AMMUNITION TO CRITICIZE PRESIDENT CARTER.''

CIA DIRECTOR STANSFIELD TURNER AND OTHER TOP INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS SPENT MORE THAN TWO HOURS WITH THE GOP CANDIDATES AT REAGAN'S RENTED ESTATE IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

BUSH, WHO HEADED THE CIA HIMSELF DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF FORMER PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD, SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE INFORMATION THAT WAS RECEIVED AT THE PRIVATE BRIEFING. BUT BUSH ALSO SAID IT DID NOT CHANGE HIS GENERAL VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST NOR WOULD IT CAUSE HIM TO STOP CRITICIZING CARTER'S GENERAL HANDLING OF FOREIGN POLICY OVER THE LAST 3½ YEARS.

''I FEEL BETTER INFORMED ABOUT THE WORLD. I CAN'T TELL YOU I FEEL MORE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT IT;'' SAID BUSH, WHO SPOKE TO REPORTERS WAITING OUTSIDE.

THE VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE SAID HE AND REAGAN ASKED SEVERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT THE U.S. HOSTAGES IN IRAN BUT THERE WAS LITTLE DICUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT.

REAGAN DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE BRIEFING WITH REPORTERS, ALTHOUGH AS HE WALKED BUSH TO A HELICOPTER, REAGAN CHARACTERIZED THE SESSION AS ''MOST INTERESING.''

''WE'RE JUST GETTING INFORMATION WE DIDN'T HAVE BEFORE;'' HE SAID.

WHILE BUSH GENERALLY PRAISED THE QUALITY OF THE INTELLIGENCE RECEIVED, FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER, AN OCCASIONAL REAGAN FOREIGN POLICY ADVISER, QUESTIONED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BRIEFING IN LIGHT OF WHAT HE SUGGESTED WAS THE POOR STATE OF U.S. INTELLIGENCE.

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